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To: ["Hodgkiss, Miranda" <Hodgkiss.Miranda@epa.gov>](mailto:Hodgkiss.Miranda@epa.gov)
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Date: 7/9/2018 3:21:49 PM
Subject: FW: Flint Michigan and its relationship to Capitol Lake

Hi,

Scroll down in the email (not the attachment) to see the highlighted text. We should/will follow-up with Ecology to get more context understanding. The commenter is the same person that emailed me to receive our decision rationale memo (which I provided him).

thanks

From: Doenges, Rich (ECY) [mailto:rdoe461@ECY.WA.GOV]
Sent: Monday, July 9, 2018 2:25 PM
To: Croxtion, David <Croxtion.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Lee, Kessina (ECY) <kleee461@ECY.WA.GOV>
Subject: FW: Flint Michigan and its relationship to Capitol Lake

Dave,

FYI for your awareness. I've highlighted the mention of EPA's recent decision on the Deschutes River TMDL.

Please contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Rich

Rich Doenges * Section Manager, Water Quality Program-Southwest Regional Office

*office: 360.407.6271 * rich.doenges@ecy.wa. gov <mailto:Bob.Covington@DES.WA.Gov>

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10/24/2018

From: North, Teri (ECY)
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 9:11 AM
To: Toteff, Sally (ECY) <STOT461@ECY.WA.GOV <mailto:STOT461@ECY.WA.GOV> >; Bartlett, Heather (ECY) <heba461@ECY.WA.GOV <mailto:heba461@ECY.WA.GOV> >
Subject: FW: Flint Michigan and its relationship to Capitol Lake

FYI

[illegible]

Attached is an article about a new book written by a Doctor on how "Government Failed to Act in a Responsible Manner". This book summary reflects on the truth after the fact. I worked for five years as a Consultant on capital facility long range funding with the City of Detroit Water and Sewer Dept and the Mayor's Office (and Federal Judge) in the mid 1990s. The Regional Detroit Water System had provided

safe drinking water to Flint, but Flint officials wanted cheap water---based on philosophy of cheap and local decision making and not facts".. I know the technical, the regulatory, the political and the human elements behind this story. The summary of the book is generally correct. The community wanted cheap water and they got it---but not safe to drink. Who is the responsible party?

The decision process was driven by politicians not willing to make the hard decision based on good factual data that was available. Then the second level bureaucrats that should have "blown the whistle" were not willing or did not take the time to inform the "honest politicians and regulators" to say NOT TRUE and explained the problems about water treatment and the cost of service that needs to be addressed. . The science was well established. No one looked at it as a total system and listened only to the "political squeaky wheel and agenda drivers of special interest--not the good for the community as a whole".

The reason I am sharing this with you is that the past four years of "Government Guidance and response on Capital Lake" reminds me of what happened in Flint. The process has been agenda driven and not a transparent and open process. Hopefully we won't be having a national story and book written about the "Capital Lake's Failed Management Plan---from an Effective Ecosystem to a Failed Tidal Mudflat" with a \$400 million price tag born by the City of Olympia and Thurston County Citizens over the next generation to pay for the lack of honest involvement by the entire community.. .

Let's do better than this by being an open and honest government, and have a transparent decision process backed up by facts---not emotions of the past and the few. .

EPA has just rejected Ecology's proposed TMDL and related procedures on the Upper Deschutes River. With open and honest engagement of the larger community, we can do better than this..

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(b)(6)



A doctor's eye-opening journey into the Flint water crisis

Book review

By NICK LICATA
Special to The Seattle Times

The toxic water supply in Flint, Michigan, which exposed up to 42,000 children under 2 years of age to lead poisoning, was a major media story a few years back. Ingestion of high dosages of lead, particularly among infants, results in cognitive impairment, attention and mood disorders, and aggressive behavior.

Mona Hanna-Attisha's account of that urban man-made disaster reads both as a detective story and as an exposé of government corruption in her book "What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City."

She brings the reader along as she uncovers Flint's calamity within the context of her experience as a Christian Iraqi immigrant living in one of America's poorest cities. Flint, the

WHAT THE EYES DON'T SEE

A STORY OF CRISIS, RESISTANCE, AND HOPE IN AN AMERICAN CITY
MONA HANNA-ATTISHA

eight-largest "majority-minority" city in the U.S. (57 percent black, 37 percent white), is where a kid born will live 15 years less than one born in the neighboring communities. As a pediatrician working at Flint's Hurley Hospital, one of the few public hospitals left in the country, her advocacy was driven by its "mandate to serve the community above all."

Although she had been an environmental activist in college, her story reveals how even the most vigilant of us must recognize that "the eyes don't see what the mind doesn't know." She begins her journey blithely comforting her patients' concerns about the quality of their drinking water: "The tap water is just fine."

Her concerns only surface when she found out, by chance, that when Flint had to switch its water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River to lower its costs, government agencies were not properly checking for lead in the water supply. Her fellow

health advocate, Marc Edwards, a self-described conservative Republican and civil engineering professor from Virginia Tech, explained to her that even though the federal law required proper inspections, "The EPA and the states work hand in hand to bury problems."

Hanna-Attisha struggled to get the attention of the authorities after the switch. The county's health department representative tells her that lead in the water was not a concern of theirs, only lead from paint chips and dust. Even an EPA manager, who issued a report to his supervisors that he found high levels of lead in Flint's water supply, was reprimanded and labeled "a rogue employee." However, something was obviously wrong. Just six months after the water switch, General Motors got a government waiver to go back to using Lake Huron water. The company noticed that its engine parts were being corroded after the switch.

At the core of the government's unresponsiveness, according to the doctor, is a breakdown of our de-

mocracy. Michigan's Republican Gov. Rick Snyder supported a law that allowed him to appoint powerful emergency managers (EM) of cities whose budgets were deeply in debt. The EMs were accountable to the governor, not local governments, to pursue strong austerity measures. Because it was too costly, Flint's EM rejected the city-council vote to go back to Detroit's water supply due to consumer-health complaints.

The most effective countervailing force was the ability to collect blood-sample data, which the media could then inform the general public. Through repeated requests and the support of dedicated professionals, Hanna-Attisha was able to acquire scientifically reliable data, which the Flint Journal and Detroit Free Press released. It was only then that Flint's mayor was forced to issue a health advisory about lead in the water. The government agencies, which had resisted addressing lead in Flint's drinking water, finally succumbed to citizen activism and the exposure from a free press, and had to admit that there was a serious health prob-

lem.

As the doctor concludes, "If we stop believing that government can protect our public welfare ... what do we have left?" Her book's message is that we each have the power to fix things, to make the world safer by opening one another's eyes to problems. Her book reinforced my belief that the first step to becoming a citizen activist is seeing the world as it should be, not as it is given to you.

"What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City" by Mona Hanna-Attisha, One World, 384 pp., \$28

Mona Hanna-Attisha will appear at 7 p.m. Monday, July 9, at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, 104 17th Ave. S., Seattle, free; 206-624-6600, elliotbay-book.com

Nick Licata is a former Seattle City Council member and author of "Becoming a Citizen Activist." You can contact him at becomingcitizenactivist.org.